

# BARTON COUNTY DEMOCRAT.

VOLUME III.

GREAT BEND, KANSAS, THURSDAY, MAY 12, 1887.

NUMBER 6.

GENERAL Simon Bolivar Buckner, it is conceded, will be the next Democratic nominee for governor of Kentucky.

It was a saying of Horace Greeley that a man might be a very fine scholar, that he might be college bred and, still, if he were wanting in what is called "newspaper instinct," he had better keep out of journalism.

We see from a Kansas City paper of recent date that young Carlisle, of Wichita, a son of Speaker Carlisle, has been appointed by the president as one of a committee of three to inspect a portion of the Northern Pacific railroad.

We notice that the *Ellinwood Express* came out last week with C. A. Voigt, editor and proprietor. Mr. Voigt says in his salutatory that hereafter the paper will be independent. Mr. Carr, the former proprietor, has gone to Colorado, we understand.

We are told that the editor of the *Register* was the only newspaper man at the first meeting of the council when the city printing was given to the *Register*, and then we are told by equally reliable men that the editor of the *Tribune* was there also. We know nothing about this part of the business.

THE editor of the *Leoti Transcript* has a fertile imagination as the following editorial note will show:

"Now is the opportune time for agitation in regard to a city park. A convenient site could be obtained at a moderate cost, the trees planted, and Leoti in 1890, with a population of 20,000, would have a beautiful, shady park for the recreation of her citizens.

THERE is one thing that newspaper men can never become reconciled to, and that is, crediting his productions to another. Only last week the *Ford County Republican* attributes an article to the *Topeka Democrat*, every word of which was written by the editor of the *Barton County Democrat* and originally appeared in this paper. There isn't anything in the article for a man to be proud of, but we hate for another man, and a Democrat, too, to have to answer for his own sins and ours, too.

## WATER WORKS.

The city water works should be pushed to an early completion. If one will only consider for a moment he will realize that Great Bend is almost in a defenseless condition in case of fire; and if the wind were blowing at the average March velocity, the city would be at the mercy of the flames. It looks almost providential when we remember that for two years and longer we have had no fire in the city. The average in cities of two or three thousand people will exceed two fires a year, no matter how cautious the people are. Viewed on a business standpoint, the water works are a necessity and the sooner we can have this safe-guard the better for the city. We know not why the long delay occurred between the closing of the contract and the beginning of work, but now that work is begun, we hope the people will demand that the work be completed as speedily as possible.

## SEND US NEWS.

We must acknowledge our indebtedness to our correspondents throughout the county for their bright, newsy letters which are materially aiding us in making the *DEMOCRAT* the leading county paper. More than a year ago we promised to make the *DEMOCRAT* the leading county paper that would be read and appreciated, if our friends would send us the local news from the several postoffices. We are glad to say that we now have a number of good correspondents. But we need two or three more in order that all portions may be represented. Send us the news. No matter if you think your spelling or punctuation is a little behind the times; we will attend to that. We want news. We want to know what you are doing in your locality; what the crop prospects are; whether your people are prosperous and contented? We shall continue to improve the *DEMOCRAT* from week to week and we want the hearty co-operation of our friends all over the county. Read your copy and lend it to a friend and try to induce him to take it. While our home is in Great Bend, yet we assure you that we are glad to hear of the prosperity of all parts of Barton county. We are not selfish and we shall try in every possible way to advance the interests of all parts of this great county.

## OCCUPATION TAX.

We are of the opinion that if our present council decide to assess an occupation tax they will find they have taken a course which will not be approved by the people of Great Bend. If there is one question on which every school of political economists are united it is that the wealth of any community should pay the taxes. And this is precisely what an occupation tax does not do. Take for example our dry goods merchants. Some of them have large stocks and are making a great deal of money while others may have very small establishments and therefore make very little money. But under the workings of an occupation tax each class would pay exactly the same. The only argument we have ever heard for this species of taxation is that sometimes when every other means has failed this could be used as a last resort. No, we are decidedly of the opinion that this kind of tax would never be popular in Great Bend.

## IT MUST BE.

If Great Bend does not become the principal city of this portion of Kansas, future generations may ascribe the fault to the present. We have so often alluded to the fact that nature has marked this place as a coming metropolis that it seems almost superfluous to reiterate. But a great many truths can be enforced only by constant iteration, and we shall take the liberty to say again that the Denver line of the Santa Fe, now building from this place up the fertile Walnut valley, ought to make Great Bend a good wholesale town. Indeed, our opinion that this road will do this city more good than any other that has been or may be built. We will make this statement, however, with this reservation, it will be our greatest road if our business men rise equal to the opportunity and put in large wholesale houses. Look at the situation. Here is a road that will traverse a vast and fertile territory. The eastern terminus of that road is Great Bend, and it is already the principal town in all this section. Again we say if, when this road is completed, Great Bend does not become a wholesale town of importance it will be the fault of our business men.

## An Artist's Secret.

One often hears of the "actress art," meaning the art of preserving one's personal appearance. No woman in the country can look at Maggie Mitchell and say that she is not well preserved. She is, well, beyond 50; yet her arm is as plump, her bust as full, and her animation as great as twenty-five years ago. Why? Because, as Miss Mitchell says, she never had a care in her life. Her mode of life has always been exemplary in its regularity and simplicity, and she has never known the effects of late hours or the wearing fatigue of receptions, as they are known to society women. Under present conditions Maggie Mitchell, ten years hence, will be as lively and vivacious as she is now.—*Pioneer Press*.

The Kansas Farmer of May 5th, contains the following report from Barton county:

April very windy and dry with the exception of a few showers about the middle; hard frost on 20th and 21st. Wheat is backward and in want of rain. Oats came up very poorly, but will come out with good rain. A good deal of corn planted, coming up very slowly. Grass coming on very slowly where not burned off. Sorghum going out of use, no mill to reduce it to syrup, and stockmen prefer something else. No complaint of damage by chinch bugs. Stock in fine condition; a few cases of black-leg. Immigration through here heavy, and quite a number stop. A branch of A., T. & S. F. being built in north part of county, also in south part.

An Illinois man, who has been visiting Kansas, writes this to the *Shaw-nectown (Ill.) News*:

"Do I like Kansas? Yes, and my reasons are these: Her soil is rich and dry, a pure atmosphere, her winds sweeping down from the mountains of Colorado. No swamps, no fogs, no miasmas, no soreness, no aches and pains in the bones on getting up in the morning, sluggishness in going to work, sleep in luxury, an appetite like a threshing machine, the blood goes bounding through the veins at the rate of forty miles an hour, and this is why I like Kansas."

Chintz bugs have appeared in several districts throughout the county.

Mr. A. S. Allen's little girl, Daisy, is sick with measles.

Lamb, Powers, and Prescott, are now the publishers of the *Sterling Bulletin*.

We regret to state that Mr. John Zeiler is confined to his home by illness.

LaFayette Park is a thing of beauty since the trees have put on their summer garb.

S. H. Brown has bought a hotel at Lamar, Colorado, and will shortly move to that place.

A son of Will Hays and daughter of Mr. Pelter, both in the west end of town, are reported down with the measles.

The boxes at the postoffice have been moved back quite a distance and the entire room will be re-arranged shortly.

Decoration day will be the 30th of this month. Some preparation for the proper observance of that day should be commenced.

The farmers are beginning to say that we are needing rain again. Wheat, they say, will be injured unless we have a rain within a week or so.

The members of the Presbyterian church are preparing to give an entertainment about two weeks from this date. Full particulars will appear later.

A flagman's station has been established at the Santa Fe crossing on Main street, and a flagman now serves throughout the day to warn all passers by of approaching trains.

Behold that man of frantic air, who rushes here and gallops there. Why does he use such fearful haste, as though a moment he might waste? He does not dodge the sword of fate, he only hunts for real estate.—Ex.

Kansas now has an outlet to the sea, via the Kansas & Gulf, Colorado & Santa Fe railroads, by way of Arkansas City, Kan., and Galveston. To the stars one way, to prosperity and wealth another, and to the sea. Happy Kansas, what a favored lot is thine—corner lot—400 miles front on United States avenue, by 200 miles deep on Nebraska and Indian Territory streets; location, finest in the world; price, a song compared to value; for further particulars apply to any Kansas newspaper.—*Abilene Gazette*.

The most sanguinary conflict known in the annals of Great Bend has just closed. It will be transmitted to future generations under the name of "bellum Dawsonis, versus Canes," and will be placed in the same category with the Siege of Troy. For three days the conflict has raged, and "many were the deaths and wide flowed the blood of the valiant." But the arms of the valiant Dawson prevailed, and his banners wave in triumph over the battlements of the fair city. Twenty five howling canes are sleeping peacefully on the banks of the raging Arkansas, never more to break the slumbers of the law-abiding, quiet-loving citizens of Great Bend.

Slowly, but gladly, he laid them down, in a hole alongside the ferry; He raised not a stone, he carried not a line, But he knew the citizens were merry.

## Hadn't Heard of the Boom.

A traveler in Kansas while crossing a prairie the other day came upon a party of men who seemed to be preparing the land for agricultural purposes.

"My friend," said the traveler, addressing one of the men, "you are laying off the corn rows quite a distance apart."

"Corn rows?" the man gasped.

"Yes, those rows over there."

"My stars, stranger!" exclaimed the Kansas man, "is it possible you ain't heard of it?"

"Heard of what?"

"Of the boom. Man alive, them ain't corn rows, over there; they air streets, an this here is a city. You are now on the corner of Commercial and Emporium streets, and not in the check of a corn row, as you mout suppose."—*New York Tribune*.

Dr. Shaw reports a large amount of sickness among the railroad employes of the Santa Fe.

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